

the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; the Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with gold boarder and two oak leaf clusters; the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with six oak leaf clusters; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with gold hourglass device, mobilization "M" device, and numeral "6"; and the Air Force Training Ribbon. His foreign service awards include the Kuwait Liberation Medal with gold palm device from Saudi Arabia and the Kuwait Liberation Medal from Kuwait.

Colonel Limpert also holds the following New York State awards and decorations: the New York State Long and Faithful Service Award with one gold shield device and one silver shield device; the New York State Desert Storm Service Medal; the New York State Operation Enduring Freedom Ribbon; the New York State Operation Iraqi Freedom Ribbon; the New York State Defense of Liberty Medal; the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross with one cross device; the Medal for Human Service to New York State; the New York State Exercise Support Ribbon; and the New York State Physical Fitness Ribbon.

Colonel Limpert's effective dates of promotion are: Second Lieutenant—24 June 1982; First Lieutenant—25 February 1985; Captain—5 March 1985; Major—1 October 1993; Lieutenant Colonel—February 2000; and his current rank of Colonel—4 October 2008.

Colonel Limpert received a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania in 1981 and Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, from Syracuse University College of Law, Syracuse, New York. He also completed the Squadron Officer School, (Correspondence) course, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama in 1993; the Air Command and Staff College, (Correspondence), Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama in 2000; the Air War College, (Correspondence), Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama in 2007; and the Advanced Joint Professional Military Education Course, Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Virginia in 2009.

In his civilian capacity, Colonel Limpert is a Syracuse City Court Judge. He was appointed to the Bench in November, 2009 and elected to a ten year term in November, 2010. As a City Court Judge, Colonel Limpert handles both criminal and civil cases. Prior to becoming a Judge, he was in private practice for over 20 years.

Without question Mr. Speaker, Colonel Limpert is a very special person. He willingly served his nation, exuding loyalty and pride. For his unrelenting service, Colonel Limpert can retire knowing he has earned such a status. I would like to wish him well in his retirement years, as he will now be able to spend more free time with his wife Susan, his daughter Elizabeth, and his sons Harold, Nikolas and Tyler. Colonel Limpert, thank you for all your years of hard work, dedication and service to our country.

TRIBUTE TO DAN SMOOT

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most

dedicated and respected law enforcement officials in narcotics diversion and substance abuse education in Kentucky, Dan Smoot, in honor of his 33 years of law enforcement service—12 of which were spent as a leader at an organization near and dear to my heart, Operation UNITE.

After serving more than two decades as a narcotics diversion specialist for the Kentucky State Police in Eastern Kentucky, Smoot was one of the first leaders brought on board to help launch Operation UNITE, a non-profit organization designed to tackle the tidal wave of drug abuse that hit Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District with the release of powerful prescription painkillers in our rural region. Because of the unique challenges associated with prescription drug addiction and abuse, UNITE's name reflects its three-pronged, holistic approach—Unlawful Narcotics Investigations, Treatment and Education.

As the inaugural Law Enforcement Director, he undertook the daunting task of developing and implementing law enforcement policies and procedures for UNITE's accredited task force. Critically important to the organization's success has been buy-in and cooperation among local law enforcement, and Smoot's early work at UNITE was critical to forging these partnerships. He engaged with more than 30 different fiscal courts to enact interlocal cooperation agreements to provide jurisdiction for UNITE to work with local law enforcement agencies in each county. Thus far, UNITE's task force has arrested more than 4,000 drug traffickers, taken over \$12.3 million in drugs off the streets, while maintaining a 97% conviction rate in southern and eastern Kentucky. Closely collaborating with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Smoot developed an innovative debit card program to fund street-level drug purchases for local police departments and sheriff's offices in eleven counties. Additionally, he has developed a reputation for his tireless advocacy for better drug abuse-related policy and legislation in Kentucky and surrounding states. As a result of his efforts, Smoot was named President and CEO of UNITE in 2013.

Though the majority of his career has been focused on law enforcement, Smoot quickly became an advocate for UNITE's effective education and treatment programs. It takes a special kind of law enforcement officer to commit to treatment and education programs—but Smoot immediately bought in, and it's due in large part to his leadership, to his steadfast guidance and advocacy, and to his unwavering commitment to this critically important cause that UNITE shines as a national leader in helping individuals take back their communities from the scourge of drug abuse. He has supported Drug Court programs and spent countless hours educating community members and students about drug abuse prevention across the region. Whether he is talking to national leaders or spending time with at-risk middle school children at Camp UNITE, his passion to end the cycle of drug abuse in Kentucky is remarkable. The story of his career is now written, not only by the drug traffickers who have spent time in state and federal prisons for illicit drug activities, but also by their children and grandchildren who now realize there is hope for a better future, thanks to the valiant education and treatment programs he helped lead at Operation UNITE.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Dan Smoot's incredible leadership in our

life-saving and life-changing anti-drug efforts in Kentucky and throughout our Appalachian region. I have no doubt that he will carry these incredible and laudable professional and personal traits with him into any future endeavors, and I certainly wish him the very best in his new post with the Appalachian High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (AHIDTA).

RECOGNIZING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 250th anniversary of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, located in West Milford, New Jersey. St. Joseph's parish dates back to 1765, making it one of the oldest and longest lasting parishes in New Jersey.

As we look back on the past 250 years, we recognize that the world has changed drastically. Throughout these changes St. Joseph's church has remained a beacon of faith for their community. The parishioners of St. Joseph's Church come together every week to worship, promote faith, care for the less fortunate, and serve their local community. Their commitment to one another, and to the wider community, is exceptional.

I congratulate St. Joseph's on this impressive anniversary. It is an honor to represent the people of West Milford and to commend St. Joseph's parish for all they do as they seek to make our community a better place.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOSEPH EDWARD LAMENDOLA

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Colonel Joseph Edward Lamendola. Originally from Massena, New York and currently a resident of Camillus, New York, Colonel Lamendola received his direct commission on 19 February 1984 and subsequently has 30 years of military service with United States Air Force and the New York Air National Guard. Colonel Lamendola has been decorated with numerous medals, awards, and service distinctions. It is my honor to recognize such a distinguished citizen and airman.

Colonel Lamendola began his military career in the Air Force on 19 February 1984 under the Air Force's direct commissioning program and served four years on Federal Active Duty as an Assistant Staff Judge Advocate and Area Defense Counsel at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina. In October 1988, Colonel Lamendola transferred to the New York Air National Guard and was assigned to the 174th Fighter Wing, Hancock Field, Syracuse, New York. During his tenure as Staff Judge Advocate with the 174th Fighter Wing, Colonel Lamendola served as the 9th Air Force Air National Guard Judge Advocate Liaison. From October 1995 through December 2000, Colonel Lamendola provided guidance and support to 9th Air Force Air National

Guard-gained units, including conducting Staff Assistance Visits to all 18 units.

In March 1995, he deployed with the 174th Fighter Wing in support of a Joint NATO Exercise conducted at Andoya Air Base, Norway. In 1991, Colonel Lamendola was called to Federal Active Duty in support of Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. He served for 180 days at home station performing duties in a dual role as Staff Judge Advocate and Public Affairs Officer.

Colonel Lamendola has served as Legal Advisor, Recorder, and Respondent's Counsel on numerous occasions by Air National Guard units from the states of Alaska, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Montana, New York and Vermont. Colonel Lamendola has assisted in the research and revision of the 1996 Commander's Legal Desk Book, and participated as a member of a Process Action Team, which drafted the Air National Guard Instruction dealing with Legal Assistance. He has also served as an instructor for the November 2003 Contemporary Base Issues course hosted by the New York Air National Guard.

Colonel Lamendola currently serves as the senior uniformed Air National Guard Judge Advocate in the New York Air National Guard and is responsible for providing legal advice, opinions, and assistance on a variety of subjects to the Commander of the New York Air National Guard, the Air Staff, other Judge Advocates assigned to New York Air National Guard's five flying wings the Eastern Air Defense Sector, and commanders throughout the New York Air National Guard.

During these times and throughout his career, Colonel Lamendola has displayed honorable character and service to the United States Air Force, the New York Air National Guard, and our country. His military decorations and unit awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters; the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster; and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with four oak leaf clusters. His military campaign and service awards include the National Defense Service Medal with one bronze service star; the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with six oak leaf clusters; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with silver hourglass device and mobilization "M" device; and Air Force Training Ribbon.

Colonel Lamendola also holds the following New York State awards and decorations: the New York State Long and Faithful Service Award with one gold shield device; the New York State Defense of Liberty Medal; the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross; and the New York State Exercise Support Ribbon.

Colonel Lamendola's effective dates of promotion are: First Lieutenant—23 September 1982; Captain—28 September 1984; Major—2 December 1989; Lieutenant Colonel—27 January 1994; and his current rank of Colonel—1 June 2009.

In his civilian capacity, Colonel Lamendola maintains a law practice in Syracuse, New York and serves a client base in Northern and Central New York. His practice concentrates in the areas of business litigation, personal injury, education and school law, family law, military law and estate planning. Colonel Lamendola serves as a committee member on the Fourth Department Attorney Grievance Committee, and he is also a delegate for the Fifth Judicial District nominating committee.

Colonel Lamendola holds degrees from Tulane Law School, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1983 (LL.M., Admiralty Law) University of Wales, Cardiff, United Kingdom, 1982 (LL.B., Cum Laude) State University of New York, Plattsburg, NY, 1977 (B.A., Political Science) Air War College, May 2005.

Colonel Lamendola also holds Bar Admissions in the U.S. Supreme Court, 1987; the U.S. Court of Appeals 2nd Circuit, 1996; the U.S. Court of Appeals 5th Circuit, 1983; the U.S. District Court Eastern District of Louisiana, 1983; the U.S. District Court Northern District of New York, 1991; the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, 1984; the State of New York, 1990; and the State of Louisiana, 1983.

Without question Mr. Speaker, Colonel Lamendola is a very special person. He willingly served his nation, exuding loyalty and pride. For his unrelenting service, Colonel Lamendola can retire knowing he has earned such a status. I would like to wish him well in his retirement years, as he will now be able to spend more free time with his wife Heather and his daughter Amelia Jude. Colonel Lamendola, thank you for all of your years of hard work, dedication, and service to our country.

RECOGNIZING MR. JOSEPH ZIMMERMAN

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joseph Zimmerman of Bucks County for his service and dedication to Scouting, the Boy Scouts of America, Washington Crossing Council, and Cub Scout Pack 30. An Eagle Scout, Mr. Zimmerman has been involved in Scouting for 75 years and recently was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation and the title of Cub Master Emeritus for his work on behalf of the youngest Scouts. Since 2006, he served as Chartering Organization Executive to Cub Scout, Pack 30, providing the benefit of his experience and leadership. I join his friends and associates in thanking him for his many community contributions and his service to our country during the Korean War. With his spirit of volunteerism and the countless hours as a role model for Scouts and Scout Masters, Joseph Zimmerman has set an example for others to follow.

HONORING VANESSA IAQUINTA

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the conclusion of National School Counseling Week to honor a deserving school counselor in my district. Vanessa Iaquinta joined Norwalk High School in 1998, and is the heart and soul of the school's counseling team. She has made a tremendous impact on the lives of Norwalk students because she believes that every one of them should be given the tools necessary to succeed in both college and life.

Ms. Iaquinta works with parents to make sure they feel included and informed about their child's education. Vanessa and her team have developed a personalized and comprehensive approach that meets the academic, social-emotional, and post-secondary needs of each and every Norwalk High School student. She goes above and beyond, even using social media to stay connected with graduates, reminding them of application deadlines for student aid and scholarships.

Vanessa is also the counselor for AVID, a program that helps students who have shown the potential to succeed but need a little extra help. She meets with students, and coordinates with teachers to make sure their individual needs are being met.

This year, Vanessa agreed to be the counselor for the newly established Project Lead the Way which exposes students to the field of biomedicine. In the few short months since Vanessa has undertaken this role, the program has expanded, interest has increased, and students are thriving.

Norwalk High School is a special place because of dedicated professionals like Vanessa. In honor of National School Counselors Week, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking all the school counselors who are making a positive impact in the lives of our students.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 50 I was unable to make votes due to the weather (snow storm) in Pennsylvania. Had I been present, I would have voted yea.

REINTRODUCING THE LENA HORNE RECOGNITION ACT OF 2015

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Lena Horne Recognition Act of 2015, which would award the Congressional Gold Medal to the late, renowned singer, actress, and Civil Rights icon, Ms. Lena Mary Calhoun Horne.

As an African American woman born in the 1917, Ms. Horne, who passed away in 2010, was truly a woman of firsts, having pioneered the way for many men and women of color through her work in Jazz, film, and the Civil Rights movement. She began her career in the chorus line at Harlem's famed Cotton Club before moving on to record dozens of musical tracks and playing roles in movies and musicals.

As a young woman, Lena drew much fame from her beauty and talent, yet found many roadblocks in her personal success due to the hyper-racialized nature of show business at the time. However, this adversity would not limit her, and presented a platform for her increasing support of and action in the Civil Rights movement.